

ENERGY SCIENCES COALITION FY 2008 Funding Statement

Support \$4.4 billion for the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science in FY08

The Energy Sciences Coalition (ESC) supports a minimum funding level of \$4.4 billion for the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science in FY 2008, the amount contained in the President's FY 2008 budget request. This funding level is consistent with the Energy Policy Act of 2005, the Democratic Innovation Agenda announced by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi in November 2005, the President's American Competitiveness Initiative announced in January 2006, and with recommendations made by the National Academies 2005 report, "Rising above the Gathering Storm."

The amount being requested by the ESC will:

- Allow the Office of Science to maintain and strengthen DOE's core research programs at both the DOE national laboratories and at universities;
- Enable support for 25,500 PhD's, postdoctoral associates, and graduate students in FY08 – approximately 3,600 more than were supported in FY06;
- Ensure maximum utilization of DOE research facilities;
- Allow the Office of Science to develop and construct the next-generation facilities necessary to maintain U.S. preeminence in scientific research; and
- Enable DOE to continue to pursue the tremendous scientific opportunities outlined in the Office of Science Strategic Plan and in its 20 Year Scientific Facilities Plan.

ESC believes that a minimum funding level of \$4.4 billion is required to keep United States science and engineering at the forefront of global research and development in the physical and biological sciences, computing and many other critical scientific fields. Strong support for DOE scientific research is essential to advancing a broad array of research subjects in order to improve our economic and national security. It is also important to ensuring our future energy self-sufficiency and as a means to address major environmental challenges including global climate change. Simply put, it is an investment in our future.